

KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD NOTES

Volume 12, No. 1 Report of the February 10-12, 2004, Regular Meeting

STATEMENT REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR SUFFICIENT FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROVED

At its February meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education approved the following statement reaffirming the need for sufficient funding of public education:

STATEMENT REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR SUFFICIENT FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN KENTUCKY

**By
The Kentucky Board of Education
Commonwealth of Kentucky
February 11, 2004**

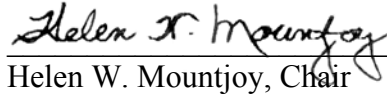
The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) has been charged by the Kentucky General Assembly to establish policy to carry out the management and control of the common schools and all programs operated in these schools. In compliance with this charge the KBE reaffirms its longstanding commitment to assisting students and schools to achieve high standards and to reach proficiency by 2014.

The KBE acknowledges the serious financial deficit facing the Commonwealth and the complexities and challenges of preparing a balanced budget, but emphasizes that sufficient funding of the P-12 system is absolutely essential to provide each child the opportunity to achieve at high levels as required by statute.

The KBE is gravely concerned about the potential for further reductions in spending for services and programs that support student learning. Such cuts, if implemented, will greatly reduce the capacity of educators and students to reach the goals our nation and state have set for them.

Therefore, the KBE urges the General Assembly to provide sufficient funds in the 2005-2006 biennium for Kentucky to continue the historic progress it is making in education at all levels. Further, the KBE calls upon the General Assembly to enact tax modernization measures that will ensure the streams of revenue will grow as Kentucky's needs grow over time.

Kentucky Board of Education:


Helen W. Mountjoy, Chair

For more information on the statement contact Mary Ann Miller at (502) 564-3141 or via email at mmiller@kde.state.ky.us.

CHANGES MADE TO ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS RELATED TO NCLB REQUIREMENTS

On January 23, 2004, a public hearing was held on the assessment regulations related to *No Child Left Behind (NCLB)* requirements that were passed by the Board in December. As a result of comments received at the hearing, the Board made these additional changes to the regulations at its February meeting:

- (a) To 703 KAR 5:070, Inclusion of Special Populations In the State-Required Assessment and Accountability Programs, language was added regarding the requirement of LEP students to submit a writing portfolio for CATS accountability only after the student has been in an English-speaking instructional environment for at least two full years prior to the year of the writing assessment in question.
- (b) To 703 KAR 5:001, Assessment and Accountability Definitions, language was revised specifying the sufficient size of subpopulations for accountability purposes to be that a school or district has at least ten students in a subpopulation in each grade in which NCLB assessments are administered and either at least 60 students in the subpopulation in these grades combined or the subpopulation constitutes at least 15% of the students in these grades combined.

All of the assessment regulations related to NCLB requirements will now proceed through the legislative committee review process before becoming final. Questions on these regulations should be directed to Scott Trimble at (502) 564-2256 or via email at strimble@kde.state.ky.us.

CHARACTER EDUCATION PROGRAMS FEATURED

At the February Board meeting, representatives from Pulaski and Calloway Counties and Pella Corporation highlighted successful local district character education programs.

Superintendent Tim Eaton and Wanda Gaskins, Character Education Coordinator, explained Pulaski County's locally-designed comprehensive education program

involving all schools, all staff and the community. The program's philosophy is that good character must be interwoven into every facet of the school day and it is based on twelve guiding principles (respect, responsibility, adaptability, compassion, contemplation, courage, honesty, initiative, loyalty, optimism, perseverance and trustworthiness). Local businesses and community organizations provide support activities. For more information on Pulaski County's program, contact Wanda Gaskins at (606) 679-1123 or via email at wgaskin@pulaski.net.

Superintendent Larry Salmon and Mary Van Zante, Executive Director of the Pella Foundation, presented Calloway County's program, "Character Counts". This program emphasizes six core ethical values (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship). Pella Foundation has provided fiscal support for Calloway County's implementation of "Character Counts", illustrating an exemplary school-business partnership. For more information on Calloway County's program, contact Larry Salmon at (270) 762-7300 or via email at lsalmon@calloway.k12.ky.us.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED BY THE BOARD AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING WERE:

- December 10-11, 2003, regular meeting minutes
- 2003-2004 Local District Tax Rates for Knox County and Berea Independent
- District Facility Plans for: Boone, Crittenden, Laurel and Lawrence Counties
- District facility plan amendment for Hardin County
- Repeal of 704 KAR 3:041, Principal Assessment Centers
- Retaining of the state auditor to do work in the areas of purchasing practices and transactions with cooperatives
- KBE position on prevailing wage if consulted for legislative purposes
- Janice Allen's attendance of USDOE's summit on Enhancing Assessment and Accountability Using Technology, March 10-12, 2004
- David Tachau's membership on the KSB Facility Planning Committee
- Technical amendments to assessment regulations designating A2-A6 schools as "programs" instead of "schools"

OTHER ITEMS REVIEWED BY THE BOARD WITH NO ACTION TAKEN INCLUDED:

- KDE Employment Report
- KBE committee schedule for discussing improvements to the assessment and accountability system
- Learning Compact: transition point assessments, early diagnostic tools and interventions, increased parent and student responsibility and intensive reading and mathematics initiatives
- Improving CATS for Optimum Results: augmented assessments (grades 3-8), longitudinal assessment, and new national norms
- 703 KAR 5:040, Statewide assessment and accountability program; relating accountability index to school classification (A1-A6)

- Reports from one regional and seven statewide stakeholder committees and update on facilities planning and legislative considerations (KSB/KSD Committee)
- KDE Coordinated School Health (CSH) efforts and current issues surrounding the health of students
- 702 KAR 7:125, Pupil Attendance
- Consideration of future amendments to 702 KAR 1:001, The Kentucky School Facilities Planning Manual
- Differentiated Compensation Pilot Status Report
- Update on deficit and watchlist districts
- 702 KAR 7:065, Designation of Agent to Manage High School Interscholastic Athletics; Annual Reporting Requirements and Revisions in Kentucky High School Athletic Association Due Process Procedure
- Classroom Applications of Technology
- Reading First, Reading to Achieve and Intensive reading and mathematics initiatives
- KDE's initiatives to support teachers, schools and districts to improve assessment and instructional practice
- Instructional Leadership
- State and Federal Fund Allocations by District
- Report on 2004 elementary and secondary education legislation and the biennial budget

KBE MEETING DATES FOR 2004

<u>2004</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
April 7-8	Regular meeting	Frankfort
May 12-13	KBE retreat and strategic plan discussion	Frankfort
June 2-3	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 11-12	Regular meeting and commissioner's evaluation	Frankfort
October 6-7	Regular meeting	*TBD
December 8-9	Regular meeting	Frankfort

*TBD – To be determined

For more information on the schedule contact Mary Ann Miller at 502-564-3141 (email mmiller@kde.state.ky.us) or Susan Palmer at 502-564-3141 (email spalmer@kde.state.ky.us).

The actions described above were taken in open session of the Kentucky Board of Education at the February 10-12, 2004, regular meeting conducted in the State Board Room, Capital Plaza Tower, 1st Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky. This information is provided in summary form, and an official record of the meeting is available on tape in the permanent records of the Kentucky Board of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. These records are open for inspection Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For additional information about the Kentucky Board of Education meetings, agendas, minutes or special accommodations needed for attending meetings, contact Mary Ann Miller, Policy Coordinator at (502) 564-3141.

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